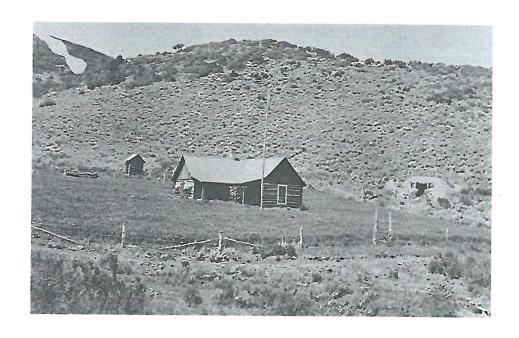
Interpretive Master Plan



Cayton Ranger Station and West Divide Creek

Rifle Ranger District
White River National Forest
USDA Forest Service



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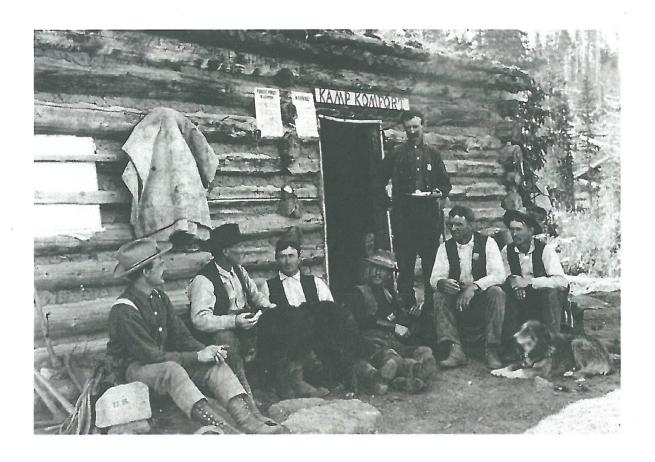


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"The Nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased; and not impaired in value."

Theodore Roosevelt



"And where conflicting interests must be reconciled the question will always be decided from the standpoint of the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run."

Gifford Pinchot



"On July 8, 1908, I received orders from the Supervisor's Office, which was in Colbran at that time, David Anderson being the supervisor, to go to the Grand River District [of the Battlement Forest] and take charge of it. 'Uncle Dave', as Supervisor Anderson was familiarly called, told me that I must make friends over there, and really for the first year on this district that was one of the principal things that I did, make friends for the Service."

James Cayton Forest Ranger



I. Introduction

The historic Cayton Ranger Station is located on the Rifle Ranger District of the White River National Forest. Built in 1910 by James Cayton, it is one of the oldest surviving Ranger Stations in the National Forest System. Built in the Divide Creek watershed south of Silt, Colorado it represents the early efforts of the Forest Service to bring the ideas of conservation and resource management put forward by Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot to the western slope of Colorado's Rocky Mountains.

Through the efforts of the Forest Service, the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation and many volunteers, the Cayton Ranger Station has been restored. The restored cabin provides a great opportunity to tell the story of James Cayton, the past and present management of the National Forests, and the people who have and still depend on the National Forest for their livelihood.

This document seeks to outline a strategy for interpretation and conservation education based on the unique opportunities represented by the Cayton Ranger Station. This strategy is built from a central interpretive theme, supported by a set of sub themes and story lines along with measurable goals and objectives. An effort has been made to tie this plan back to the Forest Plan and Draft Interpretive Strategy for the White River National Forest as well as appropriate regional and national direction for Interpretation, Interpretive Services and Conservation Education.



II. Process and Methods

A. Planning at the Cayton Ranger Station in a Forest Context

In developing an interpretive plan or conservation education strategy for any site, it is best to put that plan into a context established by existing direction or policy for the organization. In the case of the Cayton Ranger Station on the White River National Forest, Forest policy and direction regarding interpretation, interpretive services or conservation education is minimal. The current Forest Plan does not specifically address the Cayton Ranger Station. The White River National Forest lacks an approved Forest Interpretive Master Plan or Conservation Education Strategy. What the White River NF does have is a vision that is supported by the vast majority of employees on the Forest. This vision has already helped shape management decisions.

White River National Forest Vision

"We are a 21st century organization, leading the nation in innovative landscape conservation, connecting citizens to the land through world-class recreation, restoring and enhancing resilient ecosystems, and contributing to sustainable economies. We tell our story and take care of each other as we continue our legacy of meeting incredible challenges with passion, creativity and collaboration."

In developing an interpretive plan for the Cayton Ranger Station, the team began by looking at the Vision for the White River National Forest. Three phrases in that vision (underlined for emphasis) are important to this process. Well planned and implemented interpretive and conservation education programs contribute to the National Forest recreation experience and

help the Forest Service tell its story. The legacy of natural resource conservation and management on the White River National Forest begins with the first generation of Forest Rangers, men like James Cayton. As we interpret the lives of Jim and Birdie Cayton and the work Jim did to put the principles of National Forest management on the ground, we lay the foundation needed to make the White River National Forest Vision a reality.

Concurrent with the development of an interpretive plan for the Cayton Ranger Station, a Recreation Site Management Plan is also being developed. The Site Management Plan will address the issues of infrastructure such as toilets, the location and number of camping and picnicking sites, a host site and other site amenities. The Site Management Plan will have its own implementation schedule and funding recommendations. This Interpretive Plan for the Cayton Ranger Station does not replace other Forest plans such as the WRNF Forest Plan or the WRNF Travel Management Plan for example.

B. The Interpretive Planning Process

The restoration of the historic Cayton Ranger Station and a desire to protect the investment made in the site provided the incentive for the development of an Interpretive Master Plan for the Cayton Ranger Station and West Divide Creek.

The restoration of the cabin was the result of the combined efforts of the Forest Service and the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation. Publicity surrounding the restoration of one of the oldest ranger stations remaining in the National Forest System and subsequent designation of the structure as a National Historic Site led to increased awareness of the significance of the site and the role played by Ranger James Cayton in the early management of the National Forests, especially an area that is now a part of the White River National Forest. This increased interest in the cabin and questions as to what would be done with the cabin now that it has been restored led to the idea of developing an Interpretive Master Plan for the site that could provide direction for future interpretation and conservation education programming focused on Ranger Cayton and the Cayton Ranger Station.

Having completed the restoration of the cabin, the Forest Service and the members of the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation found themselves asking what should be done next and how should it be accomplished. The need for a recreation site development plan and an interpretive master plan were also identified.

A four-person team made up of three Forest Service employees and a volunteer consultant undertook the development of this Interpretive Master Plan. Jason Pooler is the Visitor Information Specialist for the Rifle Ranger District and team leader. Andrea Brogan is the Heritage Resource Program Leader for the White River National Forest. Elaine Langstaff is the Grants and Agreements Specialist for the White River National Forest. Patrick Thrasher (USFS Retired) is a volunteer consultant in Interpretation and Conservation Education.

Interpretation and environmental education are often considered two sides of the same coin, but there are important differences in these two approaches. It is generally accepted that interpretation and conservation education often use some of the same techniques and methods to deliver a message. The major difference comes down to setting and audience.

Conservation Education is a planned curriculum that supports statewide educational objectives. Although it may include a site visit, classroom activities are also usually involved. The audience

for environmental education programs are organized school classes (Kindergarten through university) and youth groups working toward specific goals, such as Scouts working toward particular badges or achievements. The most successful conservation education program is built around state and school district learning standards, and is based on the input of education professionals.

Interpretation, on the other hand, address the "casual visitor" or outreach contacts with the general public. The National Association for Interpretation defines interpretation as "a communication process that forges emotional and intellectual connections between the interest of the visitor and the inherent meanings of the resources." Why is that important? When done well, interpretation can accomplish many things. By enhancing the visitor experience and increasing visitor knowledge, it can help achieve management objectives for the Forest Service. People tend to protect and conserve the things they care about and care about the things they understand.

How do we do that? Interpretive audiences have special requirements that must be met for interpretation to be successful. Interpretive audiences are looking for an enjoyable experience. Although learning something new may important to them, increasing their own knowledge is usually not the primary motivation for participation in interpretive activities or visiting an interpretive site. More often, these audiences are looking for something interesting to do so the interpretive program must attract and hold their interest. It must relate to something within their experience, provide opportunities that appeal to a variety of learning styles and participation levels, and meet the visitors' desire and ability to pay with either time or dollars.

Interpretation has been described by Sam Ham, in his book <u>Environmental Interpretation</u>, as a way to translate scientific knowledge into a language that the average person can easily understand. This concept is an important one for a site like the historic Cayton Ranger Station. We can not and should not hope to make every visitor an expert on the management of National Forests, the history of the American conservation movement or the diversity of resources found in the Divide Creek watershed; however, we can increase their overall understanding and thereby increase their support for the Cayton Ranger Station and the conservation of our natural and cultural heritage on a broader basis. Studies have shown that people tend to remember themes and forget facts, so interpretation efforts should relate to a central theme that people can embrace and remember when they leave the Divide Creek area. The central theme provides a framework for the many stories to be told through a main idea that we want people to take home in their heads and in their hearts.

Having chosen a central theme, sub themes and story lines for interpretation and conservation education at the Cayton Ranger station, the team conducted an inventory of interpretive opportunities in the Divide Creek watershed in a sensing exercise involving the staff of the Rifle Ranger District and the members of the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation. This inventory represents those places and things that can be used to develop the central interpretive theme, sub themes and stories.

By combining the theme and story lines with the opportunity inventory, recommendations for Interpretive Experience and Media, and Conservation education programming were developed. In the case of interpretive program recommendations, the recommendations were further broken down into four categories: 1) Self Directed Off Site, 2) Self Directed On Site, 3) Staffed Off Site, 4) Staffed On Site.

The location of the Cayton Ranger Station and the seasonal nature of access led to the development of recommendations for both on-site and off-site interpretive and conservation education experiences and media. These recommendations represent the "how to" or the box of tools needed to achieve the themes, stories, goals and objectives for interpretation and education at the Cayton Ranger Station.

Recognizing the nature of the Forest Service budget in today's political climate, implementation of this plan will only be accomplished through cooperation with partners and phased implementation. The last two sections of this document provide recommendations of possible partners, some of whom are already on board, and funding recommendations.



III. Site History and Setting

The Cayton Guard Station lies on the western edge of the White River National Forest near the Divide Creek area of Silt, Colo. It is one of the oldest ranger stations in the U.S. It was the administrative post for James Cayton, one of the original Forest Rangers. Within the cabin walls lie the legacies of early forest ranger James Cayton, the young National Forest he sought to protect and the people he served. It evokes the national endeavor lead by Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot. This cabin has a story to be treasured and shared.

James Cayton was appointed Assistant Forest Ranger on September 7, 1903. He and his new wife Adelaide "Birdie" Cayton constructed the log cabin in 1910. They worked together to build a life at this new administrative post. Birdie was a teacher at Fairview School near Silt and a daughter of a local rancher.

James Cayton was a pioneer of the Forest Service. As the first Forest Ranger at this station, he was recognized regionally for his dedication to and efforts toward administering the policies of Federal law on the National Forest and Forest Reserves. His ability to work cooperatively with local ranching interests balanced with the need to conserve the forest resources for future generations typified the role of an early Forest Service Ranger. His legacy is worthy of embracing today.

Cayton Guard Station has played an important role in the development of the White River National Forest. It was constructed at a time when Forest Service Administration was first gaining a presence in the area. The building, its related structures and its residents served as an interface between the public and the Forest Service. Rangers maintained a friendly relationship with those in the surrounding community while carrying out the day-to-day needs of the Forest Service. Cayton Guard Station connects this scenic area of Colorado to the history of the nation's administrative development of the Forest Service. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2005.

James retired from the Forest Service in 1939 and he and Birdie lived in Rifle, Colorado. He served as Justice of the Peace until his death in 1956. Birdie Cayton donated her personal

collection of documents and photographs spanning 1908 to 1968 to the Rifle Ranger District. The collection includes historical photos, letters, diaries, newspaper clippings and maps that relate to the Forest Service, the Cayton family and Colorado and U.S. History.

Critical Stabilization Repairs

The Forest Service has many partners in the Cayton project. There has been substantial family support among the descendants of James Cayton and a broad spectrum of interest in this project exists in the local communities and historical societies. These partnerships have enabled the Forest Service to accomplish several critical steps along the path.

Plans for restoring the cabin began in 2003. **David W. Cayton** (James's grandnephew) worked closely with the Forest Archeologist, the Silt Historical Society, and the Colorado Historical Society on a grant proposal in 2003. Colorado State Historic Funds were obtained to complete a historic structure assessment through an architectural contract. The structural integrity of the guard station and critically needed repairs were identified.

In 2004, the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation was established. As a non-profit partner with the White River NF, it helped to bring in outside funding and in-kind donations by many local residents, (West and East Divide Creek ranchers in particular) to assist the forest with this effort. Cost of repairs in the 21st century were significantly more than it cost to build the cabin in 1910 – \$800 back then, \$80,000 today. A new concrete foundation was poured, sill logs were replaced, fire-retardant shingles were installed on the roof, the chimney was re-pointed, the logs were chinked, fir tongue-in-groove flooring was laid, the west porch was reconstructed, the drainage around the cabin was improved, doors and windows were refitted, and the cabin shutters and interior was repainted. Cabin restoration work was completed in 2012.

Interpretation and the Community

This cabin has a story to be treasured and shared. From this outpost, James Cayton served the community. Bringing this story to the community's attention has been in integral part of this project. Several community events have been held including:

White River National Forest Service Centennial Celebration (2005)

100-Year Celebration of the Cayton Ranger Station (2010)

Grand Opening of the newly restored cabin (2012)

In turn, the local community and businesses have generously shared their memories, provided historic items to furnish the cabin, and given donations. The cabin has come alive once again as a social gathering place. The Majestic Stove now stands grandly overseeing the kitchen. Antique furnishings, hangings, photographs and authentic touches invoke the Cayton's home.

Significant Milestones for the Cayton Ranger Station and the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation

1992 – Attempt at listing the facility on the National Register of Historic Places

- 2000 First discussions between David W. Cayton and the US Forest Service (Bill Kight and Andrea Brogan)
- 2003 Historic Architectural Assessment completed using grant funding from the Colorado Historic Preservation Office
- 2004 Cayton Ranger Station Foundation established
- 2005 Cayton Ranger Station placed on the National Register of Historic Places
- 2006 Restoration of the cabin begun
- 2009 The book James G Cayton * Pioneer Forest Ranger published
- 2010 Centennial celebration of the Cayton Ranger Station held at the site
- 2011 Restoration of the structure completed
- 2011 Outfitting of the cabin's interior begins, stove restored
- 2012 Plans for future use of the restored Cayton Ranger Station accelerated

Cayton Ranger Station or Guard Station? Places named after James Cayton.

A Forest Service Ranger Station serves as the District Ranger's headquarters. A Guard Station is an administrative building where fire, trail and other work crews are frequently stationed during busy times of the year.

James Cayton was posted to the Johnson Springs Ranger Station in 1909. He and Jolly Boone Robinson began to build a log barn and a cabin on the property about a month before James married Adelaide D. "Birdie" Miller on September 26, 1909. It was incomplete when the Caytons moved in so they lived in the barn until the station was completed in 1910. They lived there until 1919. No longer serving as headquarters, Johnson Springs then became a guard station.

After he retired, James was honored with several accolades for his outstanding service. The Johnson Spring Guard Station was renamed the Cayton Guard Station on January 1, 1940 by Colonel A. S. Peck regional supervisor for the U.S. Forest Service out of Denver. James G. Cayton, pioneer forest ranger, died in 1956. The awards and acknowledgements continued to honor his legacy. In the Rico area, Forest Supervisor A. F. Hoffman named a spring for Cayton because of the quality of his spring development. Cayton Campground was dedicated on Sunday, September 8, 1968 on the San Juan National Forest near Rico. Cayton Picnic Ground in the Mancos-Dolores Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest was also named in memory of James Cayton. The creek running southwest-northeast near the Cayton Guard Station was named Cayton Gulch on behalf of the service Jim had given to the land.



IV. Potential Visitor Profile

In developing an interpretive plan for a site such as the Cayton Ranger Station it is useful to have an understanding of the potential audience. Unfortunately, there is not a clear picture of that audience or what experiences they are seeking.

The current Forest Plan for the White River National Forest does not address the question in any detail. The White River National Forest is one of the most heavily visited National Forests in the nation. The forest provides significant opportunities for developed site winter sports, hunting, and wilderness recreation. Visitation tends to focus on these activities. Located on either side of the Interstate 70 corridor, the forest receives a significant number of pass-through visitors. However it appears that most of these visitors do not stray very from the Interstate and generally limit their activities to those that can be reached by paved secondary roads.

The Rifle Chamber of Commerce operates a Visitor Information Station at the Colorado DOT Rest Area adjacent to Interstate 70 in Rifle. They collect some visitor information including state or country of origin, destination and information interests. The visitation date displayed in the chart and table on Page 14 was provided by the Rifle Information Center. In providing this information, the Rifle Chamber also stated that 85% of their visitors are requesting information about historic or heritage sites in the region.

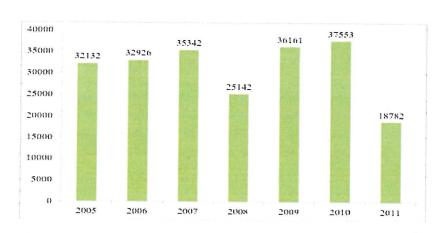
The Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife operates Rifle Gap and Rifle Falls State Parks just north of the community of Rifle and adjacent to the White River National Forest. Rifle Gap provides opportunities for water borne recreation on Rifle Gap Reservoir. Rifle Falls is a unique natural feature that provides both day use and camping opportunities. Total visitation to the two parks for 2012 was 372,000 visits. Visitors came primarily from Colorado with some from adjoining states with highest numbers coming from the Colorado Front Range (Denver) area. School Programming (Conservation Education activities) attracts groups from Aspen, Eagle, Glenwood Springs and Rifle. These visits are day visits that may include visits to Rifle Falls Hatchery as well. Ranger led interpretive programming is available from Memorial Day to Labor Day. During 2012, there were 5,000 participants in these programs.

Current Visitor Profile

There is little to no recreation visitor data of the East and West Divide Creek region specifically. Due to this limitation most of the current visitor use information is based on experience from Rifle Ranger District personnel and partners.

We know that the area is popular with hunters in the fall, and the area receives some dispersed recreation use during the summer that includes limited automobile sightseeing, hiking and equestrian use. The area receives some recreation use from the agricultural community just outside the forest boundary. These ranchers run approximately 2,500 head of cattle from June to September and can be considered one of the core use groups along with hunters. Since the 100th anniversary observance and the completion of the structural restoration, increased publicity has brought about some minor increase in visitation. With continued publicity, improved visitor information and orientation, along with improved site amenities, it would be reasonable to expect a moderate increase in visitation on the part of a local audience, especially in periods of higher energy costs as the public looks to save on travel costs by staying local. Since development of this interpretive plan there have been a couple of events at the historic site already to include a birthday celebration by West Divide Creek residents, and a wedding by a couple living in Rifle.





2011 Top Traveled "From" States

Colorado California Nevada Utah Illinois

2010 Top International Travel "From"

Canada Germany England Australia France

2011 Top International Travel "From"

Canada

Australia

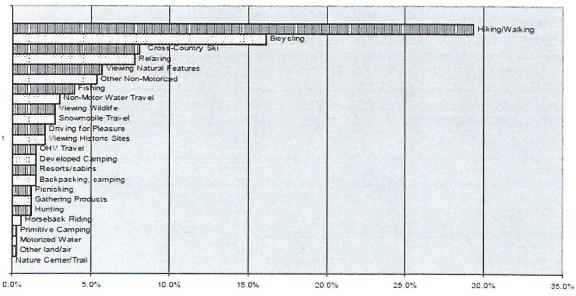
England

Austria

Germany

2010 Top Traveled "From" States

Colorado California Utah Texas Arizona

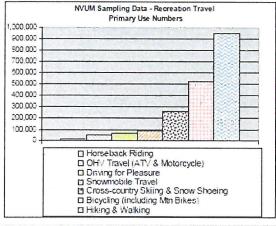


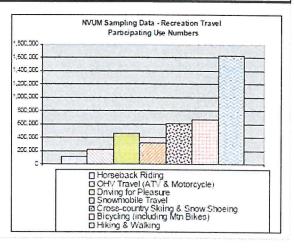
Note: Down Hill skiing equaled 70.9 % of total

The remaining 30% of uses are identified above and percentages adjusted to exclude downhill sking Source: Kocis et al. 2003

Above: This graph was taken from the White River National Forest Travel Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement. It shows Forest wide recreation activities without downhill skiing which equaled 70.8 % of total recreation based on visitor use monitoring survey data.

Totals	20.2%	100.0%	1,954,258	4.024,609
Hxing or Walking	9.8%	48.5%	945, 105	1,625,323
Bioyoling, including mountain bixes	5.4%	26.7%	522,425	677,218
Cross-country skiing, snow shoeing	2.7%	13.4%	261,213	609,496
Snowmobile Travel	0.9%	4.5%	87,071	325 934
Driving for pleasure on roads	0.7%	3.5%	67,722	464.378
OHV Travel (ATV's dirt bixes, etc.)	0.5%	2.5%	49,373	212,846
Horseback Riding	0.2%	1,0%	19,349	106.420
ACTIVITY	PERCENT WHO SAID IT WAS THEIR PRIMARY ACTIVITY - NVUM ACTUAL	ADJUSTED PERCENTS FOR LAND BASED RECREATION TRAVEL ACTIVITIES ONLY	NUMBER OF FOREST VISITORS WHO SAID IT WAS THEIR PRIMARY ACTIVITY	NUMBER OF FOREST VISITOR WHO PARTICPATED IN ACTIVIT





Source: USDA Forest Service/WRNF 2002a

Above: This diagram taken from the White River National Forest Travel Management Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement. Like the previous graph, it shows data across the What River National Forest.



V. Existing Interpretive and Conservation Education Program Providers

The following agencies and organizations provide public interpretive or conservation education programming within 50 miles of the Cayton Ranger Station. In developing interpretive media and programming for the Cayton Ranger Station, an effort should be made to coordinate with these providers. This will result in a broader awareness of the Cayton Ranger Station, a coordination of programming and a reduction in unnecessary program redundancy. It is recognized that this list is not all-inclusive and should be seen as an open ended and dynamic list.

Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife

Rifle Gap/Rifle Falls State Parks

Rifle Falls Fish Hatchery

Glenwood Springs Hatchery

Carbondale Hatchery

Rifle Parks and Recreation Department

Rifle Creek Historical Society Museum

Silt Historical Society and History Park

New Castle Historical Society Museum

Old School House Museum in Parachute

Glenwood Springs Historical Society (Frontier Museum)

Glenwood Railroad Museum

Garfield County Public Libraries

Garfield County School Districts

Private and Alternative Schools in Garfield County

Aspen Center for Environmental Studies (ACES)

Walking Mountain

Rocky Mountain Nature Association

Colorado Mountain College

Area Audubon Chapters

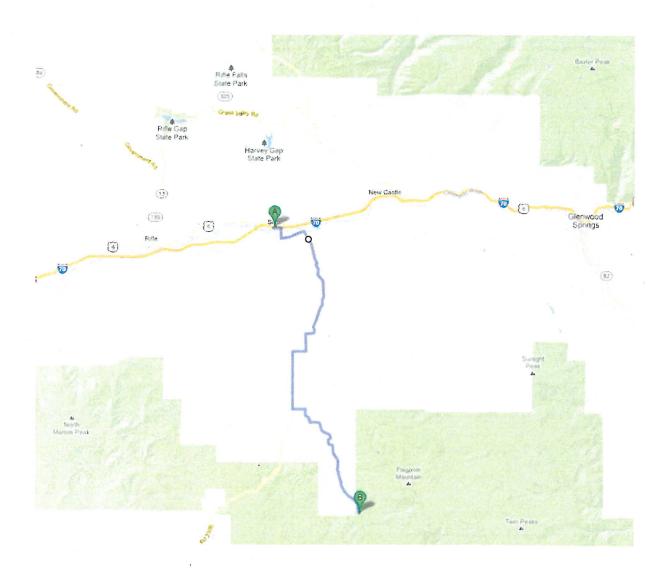
Roaring Fork

Grand Junction

Roaring Fork Conservancy

Wilderness Workshop

Aspen Community Foundation Four Rivers Historical Alliance Industry and User Group Organizations Frontier Historical Society Aspen Historical Society Mt. Sopris Historical Society





VI. Interpretive Theme, Sub-themes and Stories for the Cayton Ranger Station

A. What Are Interpretive Themes, Sub-themes and Stories

Interpretive media and programming designed around a central theme tends to have a greater impact on visitors, allowing them to internalize and personally relate to information and experiences. The central theme is the thread tying together the individual story lines and interpretive opportunities within the project area, giving continuity to the individual stories. Additionally, the theme is the most important idea or concept the visitor should comprehend. In some cases, the central theme statement will dictate a design feature or title that may visually or physically convey the theme to visitors. If the central theme is adequately communicated to visitors in a number of ways, it is what the visitor will remember most about the site and what they will tell others when asked about the site.

B. Central Interpretive Theme

Ranger Cayton – a compass showing a path to our special lands that sustain us.

C. Interpretive Sub-themes and Stories or Story Lines

1. Divide Creek – A Dynamic Landscape

Geology and Soils
History of a Watershed
Evolving Ecosystems and Landscapes
People on the Land

2. Life on Divide Creek

Native Americans
Early Exploration
Settlement, Homesteading, Ranching and Community
A Day in the Life of an Early Ranger
The Life of a Ranger's Wife

3. Origins of Today's Conservation Ethic (Movement)

Teddy Roosevelt, Forest Reserves and National Forests Ranger Cayton comes to Divide Creek Historic Patterns of Resource Use in Divide Creek

4. Stewards of the Land

Managing National Forests Today
Early Oil and Gas Exploration and Development
Stewardship is Everyone's Responsibility
Developing Tomorrow's Stewards
Management of the Cabin – Heritage Resource Management

D. Interpretive Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives outline what we want participants to know, feel and do as a result of having taken part in a specific interpretive experience. Goals tend to be general statements while objectives should be measurable or quantifiable. Goals and objectives help us determine if we are achieving desired results.

1. Divide Creek: A Dynamic Landscape

Goals

To make the public more knowledgeable about Divide Creek's geology, soils, watersheds, and ecosystems.

To communicate to the public how people's activities on the land have affected the land itself.

Teach people the dynamic process of succession in ecosystems in relation to Divide Creek.

Objectives

Participants will know how their actions affect the landscape and how the landscape affects the activities that happen in Divide Creek

Participants will know how the history of Divide Creek's watershed has affected the management actions that been implement by the Forest Service in the past and the present

Participants will know that the landscape they see today will change and the landscape of their children and grandchildren could be very different today

Participants will understand the difference between natural succession, and the impacts of humanity that causes changes in the landscape

Participants will feel that they are part of the changing landscape of Divide Creek.

Participants will feel that a changing landscape is a natural process.

Participants will feel the connection between their actions as visitors to how those actions help to keep our water clean.

Participants will, based on what they learn and feel, be more willing to support the Rifle Ranger District's goals by learning more about them, volunteering for the Forest Service or our partners, or be willing to donate money or material to support district landscape goals.

Participants will be motivated to follow Forest Service rules and guidelines based on a desire to protect the landscape.

2. Life on Divide Creek

Goals

To "touch" on pre, current and post Cayton area.

To help the public experience their surroundings as the Cayton's experienced them in the past.

To show the public the difference between their life now and how they would have lived in the past.

To have participants leave with an appreciation of what life was like on Divide Creek and how it is preserved today with the partnership of Cayton Ranger Station Foundation.

Objectives

Participants will feel what settlement, homesteading, and ranching was like on Divide Creek

Participants will do more to learn about the life of an early ranger

To leave people with a feeling of what a day in the life of a ranger's wife was like

People will feel moved to want to help the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation

Participants will feel what a log cabin home, some home amenities, the solitude, the responsibilities of an early ranger was like

Participants will ask themselves, how would I feel as James or Birdie Cayton – living here?

Participants will see the area, experience the weather, listen to the sounds, and

observe the surrounding vegetation while being compelled to experience more.

To leave participants feeling a sense of belonging to the historic station

To leave participants understanding the sense of pride the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation members must feel

Participants will want to visit other local historical parks and museums

3. Origins of Today's Conservation Ethic (Movement)

Goals

To educate participants about the conservation movement in the past

To educate participants about Gifford Pinchot and his leadership

To educate participants about Theodore Roosevelt's contribution to the conservation movement

To educate participants on the transition from Forest Reserves to the Forest Service

Objectives

Participants will understand the diverse usage of National Forest lands.

Participants will feel a greater connection to the multiple use principle and how conservation fits into this principle

Participants will feel pride for their public land

Participants will generate discussion on uses in Divide Creek.

Participants will ask themselves, what does a Conservation Ethic mean to them?

4. Stewards of the Land

Goals

To instill in the public an appreciation for the role that the Forest Service plays as a steward of Divide Creek

To communicate how stewardship is not only the responsibility of the Forest Service, but of everyone

To plant a seed of desire for visitors to want to protect the cabin and help manage it

Objectives

Participants will know the difference between the Forest Service, the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Participants will know why they need to take a part of the responsibility of taking

care of the land through their activities on it.

Participants will know why it's important that new stewards be inspired and trained.

The public will know how the Forest Service has and continues to act as a steward of the land by understanding the actions that it has and plans to take.

Participants will feel a connection that makes them want to practice positive outdoor ethics.

Participants will feel a connection to Ranger Cayton and the Cayton cabin.

Participants will follow Forest Service rules and guidelines in order to play their part as a steward of the land for themselves and future generations.

Youth and young adult participants will be moved to take the challenge of making stewardship of public lands a potential career path.

Participants will be more willing to take part in the stewardship process such as NEPA public involvement.

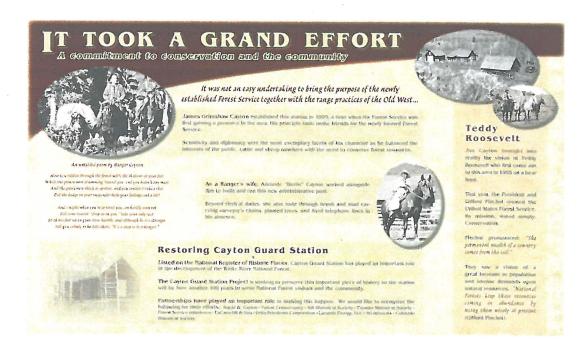


VII. Interpretive Opportunity Inventory

The following represents a preliminary inventory of interpretive opportunities for the Divide Creek watershed and the Cayton Ranger Station. This inventory was developed in workshops involving employees of the Rifle Ranger District and the members of the Cayton Ranger Station Foundation. The inventory represents a combination of sites, ideas and recommended sources for additional information to be used in the development of interpretive and conservation education media and programming. It must be recognized that this inventory is not finite or all-inclusive, but rather represents a starting point.

- 1. Just outside the Forest Boundary old school that was donated to the Silt Historical Society (may be the old Raven School)
- 2. Coal Ridge/Uncle Bob timber harvest
- 3. Flagpole Mountain planted spruce trees
- 4. Mosquito Lake prescribed fire activity
- 5. Near Mosquito Mountain highest elevation gas well in US
- 6. Between Baldy Mountain and Mosquito Creek first gas well drilled in 1937
- 7. Little Muddy Gulch/East Fork DOPW introduced moose that are now thriving
- 8. History of Forest In-holdings in the Divide Creek Area
- 9. Old road along West Divide Creek that was the result of two brothers that did not get along
- 10. Blue School House on the property of Rosemary Patterson
- 11. Clear Creek oil and gas geyser, mistakes from the oil and gas industry
- 12. Teddy Roosevelt hunting campsite visible from CR344
- 13. Old telephone poles on CR344 old telegraph/telephone lines that Ranger Cayton may have helped put in?
- 14. CCC Government Trail could be used for a multi-day interpretive hike
- 15. Development of the spring at the Cayton site
- 16. Hillside refrigeration at the Cayton site
- 17. Clear evidence of a moving hillside near the Cayton site

- 18. Mudd Hill Paleontological Wasatch Formation fossils
- 19. Steve Goodson suggests looking at the timber management records at the Rifle Ranger District for information on old timber sales
- 20. West Divide Creek Cow Camp
- 21. Fence lines throughout the area fences for cattle allotments and divided grazing concept
- 22. Origins of place names where did names like Telephone Gulch come from?
- 23. What is the history of wildfire in the Divide Creek watershed?
- 24. The CCC projects and camp locations
- 25. Haystack Mountain identifying landmark Rosemary Patterson
- 26. Lone Cedar possible survey carvings Randy Gorset
- 27. Cayton Trail is it the old <u>Government Trail</u>? Check old BLM & FS <u>maps</u> which may show that trail in its entirety Terry Broughton.
- 28. Mamn Creek School house –now owned by Stacy & Mike Brown colorful recent history David Cayton.
- 29. Birdie Cayton oldest of 8 kids her history/story. David Cayton would love to see book on just her.
- 30. Noxious Weeds (Larkspur) identified in <u>Cache Creek</u> Area James Cayton joined local ranchers to remove all in that area so cattle would not eat and die from! Story told by Terry Broughton.
- 31. Cayton History One of the oldest Ranger Stations in the U.S. Sue Schmidt
- 32. Cayton Trail Just FYI, Terry B. & DR Glenn A. rode trail and visited history
- 33. Mosquito Mtn. Rosemary P. referenced looking down from the mountain onto Cow Camp (?)
- 34. Raven School history school moved to R. Paterson's property. The school was already built but <u>Theodore Roosevelt</u> dedicated it during a speech. Randy Gorset Silt Historical Park has numerous history books.
- 35. Theodore Roosevelt camp was shown by Frank Starbuck to R.Gorset, B.Smith, A.Boulton some years back although Randy states this site differs from the site explained in history book at the Silt Historical Park.
- 36. Cayton Diaries David Cayton suggested listing the contact names (O/G's, permitees, local ranchers, etc.) in a reference format so visitors could possibly check on relatives. (Names in alphabetical order referencing daily diary entry three ring binders?)



VIII. Interpretive Experience and Media Recommendations

Because of its location and seasonal access, the interpretive experience surrounding the Cayton Ranger Station posses certain challenges to the interpretive planner, the resource manager and the public. These challenges can be addressed in two ways: by developing interpretive media and programming both on-site and off-site and employing a combination of staffed or hosted interpretation and self-directed interpretive media.

A. Self Directed Interpretive Experiences – Off Site

Family of Brochures
History and Heritage
Wildlife of Divide Creek
Plants of Divide Creek
Geology and Mineral Development in Divide Creek

Web based Interactive interpretive activities (Cayton Foundation website with links from WRNF web page)

Web based downloadable interpretive guides (Cayton Foundation website with links from WRNF web page)

Interpretive panels placed in area historical museums (Rifle, Silt, New Castle) and CDOT rest area information centers

Heritage Tour brochures

Virtual Tour downloadable from website

B. Self Directed Interpretive Experiences – On Site

Self guided interpretive trails employing signs, brochures or smart phone application

Self guided interpretive auto tour Interpretive signs located on the cabin or trail head kiosk

C. Staffed Interpretive Experiences - Off Site

Lecture series sponsored by the Cayton Foundation in cooperation with area historical societies and institutions such as Colorado Mountain College or County Library system Living history presenters such as Teddy Roosevelt, Gifford Pinchot, James Cayton or other significant local figures

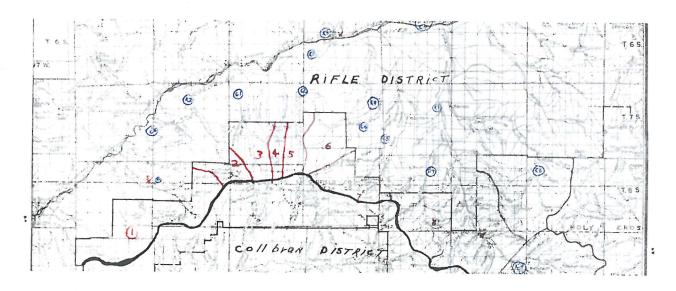
Lectures on local history subjects, resource management issues

Traveling exhibits beginning with the Cayton Collection

D. Staffed Interpretive Experiences - On Site

Provide an on-site presence through a site host trained in the basics of interpretation and conservation education

Campfire programs delivered by or hosted by site host



IX. Conservation Education Programming

The Rifle Ranger District, in cooperation with the Cayton Foundation, area school districts and institutions will develop a standards based conservation education program that can be delivered either on-site at the Cayton Ranger Station or sites more accessible during the school year. The program will be designed to meet education needs of school systems as well as fit programs of various youth organizations such as 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.

Potential Partners for Interpretive Training and Curricula:

Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife:

http://wildlife.state.co.us/Education/Pages/Education.aspx

National Association for Interpretation: http://www.interpnet.com/

Project Learning Tree: http://www.plt.org/

Project WET: http://projectwet.org/

Project Wild: http://www.projectwild.org/

School Partnerships

Starting in 2011 the Rifle Ranger District started its West Side Future Professionals Program. The program was developed by district staff as a means to merge two district goals: Establishing an audience for conservation education, and inspiring students to become involved in natural resources through careers, seasonal employment, or volunteering with the district. The program led to the partnership with the Rifle High school that culminated in a field day on Grass Mesa with over 140 Biology students. The students were exposed to standards based lessons from White River National Forest staff from wildlife, rangeland management, recreation, timber, and air quality programs. The Cayton Ranger Station would be a perfect location for future field days with the Rifle High School and other local schools in partnership with the Rifle Ranger District or Cayton Ranger Station Foundation.

The key target audience for conservation education will be regional schools. In order to promote a strong partnership with schools, and to grab their attention, educational programs will be geared toward Colorado Department of Education standards that fit within the Forest Service mission. In 2012 the state of Colorado approved an Environmental Education Plan which serves as a frame work for teachers and school districts on what to focus on for environmental and conservation education.

The Colorado Environmental Education Plan can be found at the following website: https://www.caee.org/sites/default/files/CEEP%202012%20FINAL.pdf



X. Potential Partners

Because of the limitations of funding and staffing on the part of the Forest Service, partnerships will be critically important to the success of interpretive and conservation education programming at the Cayton Ranger Station. While some of these partnerships already exist, others will need to be developed or enhanced. Partnerships can include financial and in-kind support.

USDA Forest Service, WRNF, Grand Mesa, Uncompangre, and Gunnison National Forests (GMUG) and San Juan National Forest

Cayton Ranger Station Foundation

Historical Societies

Four Rivers Historical Alliance

Rifle Historical Society

Silt Historical Society

New Castle

Glenwood Springs

Parachute

Carbondale

School Districts

Garfield County RE-1 (Glenwood Springs)

Garfield County RE-2 School District

RE-16 Parachute/Battlement Mesa

Colorado Mountain College

Colorado Mesa University

Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife

United States Department of the Interior (USDOI), Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Colorado State Historic Preservation Office

Oil and Gas Industry groups

Agricultural/Ranching Use groups and local ranchers in the East and West Divide Creek areas

Recreation user groups and organizations

Forest Service Retirees

Cooperative Extension Service

Area youth organizations such as 4-H, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts

Northwest Colorado Cultural Heritage

Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV)

Volunteers for Outdoors Colorado (VOC) ACES County Governments Garfield County Mesa County



XI. Funding Recommendations

When complete this plan will include a list of potential Interpretive and Conservation Education projects ranked in Short Term (1-2 years), Mid-Term (3-5 years) and Long Term (5-10 years) with recommendations for possible funding. Funding recommendations will include a mix of appropriated funds and in-kind services provided by the Forest Service and granted or contributed funds as well as third party in-kind services. Full advantage should be taken of grant and matching fund opportunities.

A. Short Term Projects (to be accomplished in one to two years)

- Revise the existing brochure
- Web based Interactive interpretive activities (Cayton Foundation website with links from the WRNF web page)
- Web based downloadable interpretive guides (Cayton Foundation website with links from the WRNF web page)
- Interpretive panels placed in area historical museums (Rifle, Silt, New Castle) and CDOT rest area information centers.
- Interpretive signs located on the cabin and/or trail head kiosk
- Provide an on-site presence through a site host trained in the basics of interpretation and conservation education

B. Mid-Term Projects (to be accomplished in three to five years)

- Develop the Cayton Ranger Station family of brochures
- Heritage Tour brochures
- Web based Interactive interpretive activities (Cayton Foundation website with links from the WRNF web page)
- Web based downloadable interpretive guides (Cayton Foundation website with links from the WRNF web page)

- Self guided interpretive trails employing signs, brochures or smart phone applications
- Self guided interpretive auto tour
- Virtual cache Tour downloadable from website
- Lecture Series sponsored by the Cayton Foundation in cooperation with area historical societies and institutions such as Colorado Mountain College or the Garfield County Library System.
- Campfire programs delivered by or hosted by the CRS site host.

C. Long Term Projects (to be accomplished in five to ten years)

- Self guided interpretive trails employing signs, brochures or smart phone applications
- Self guided interpretive auto tour
- Lecture Series sponsored by the Cayton Foundation in cooperation with area historical societies and institutions such as Colorado Mountain College or the Garfield County Library System.
- A Campfire program series delivered by or hosted by the CRS site host.

XII. Suggested Resources

Websites:

Cayton Ranger Station Foundation www.caytonrangerstation.org
Northwest Colorado Cultural Heritage www.nwcoloradoheritagetravel.org
National Association for Interpretation (NAI) http://www.interpnet.com/
ACES www.aspennature.org

RFOV www.rfov.org

Administering the National Forests of Colorado: An Assessment of the Architectural and Cultural Significance of Historical Administrative Properties http://www.nps.gov/history/online books/forest/colorado-nf/overview.htm

Books:

James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger- David W. Cayton and Caroline E. Metzler

The Diaries of James G. Cayton: Pioneer Forest Ranger Vol 1-3- James G. Cayton (Transcribed

by Kathy Hil)

Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter: Theodore Roosevelt -Paul Schullery

USDA Forest Service: The First Century- USDA Forest Service

The Greatest Good: 100 Years of Forestry in America-Char Miller and Rebecca Staebler